

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2004

CONTACT: Travis Linquist 916/445-5566

SONOMA COUNTY RESIDENT DEDICATED TO HELPING MEDICAL CENTER

Volunteer Works to Give Patients Quality Medical Services

SACRAMENTO - The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) *Spotlight* features Kathleen Ball. Since 2001, Ms. Ball has volunteered her time and expertise to the Redwood Coast Medical Services (RCMS) in Sonoma County.

RCMS, a non-profit community healthcare center based in Gualala, provides a full array of primary and preventive health and dental care to individuals and families in the Redwood Coast service area between Timber Cove and Irish Beach.

Elected to the Board of Directors in 2002, Ms. Ball is currently Secretary but has served in numerous volunteer roles for the healthcare center. In February of this year she led a group of 40 volunteers in organizing the annual RCMS fundraiser. In addition to being a full time real estate agent, Ms. Ball recruited volunteers, solicited auction items and obtained sponsors for the event.

The fundraiser was a huge success and raised a record \$35,000 for RCMS, which will help expand the facilities and services at the Gualala and Point Arena clinics and provide funds for community members who cannot afford to pay for medical services. Counting this event and others over the past 12 months, Ms. Ball has helped raise an estimated \$85,000 for RCMS.

"Kathleen commits herself fully to her volunteer efforts," Interim Executive Director of GO SERV, David Muraki said. "She knows that her work for RCMS will enable patients to receive quality medical care in a remote region."

The weekly GO SERV Spotlight recognizes people and programs making a difference in their communities through service and volunteerism.